

WEATHER:
Drizzle.
Lighting-up time:
7.4 p.m.
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Evening Standard

46,115

London: Wednesday October 3 1973

7RR

3p

CLOSING
PRICES

Old Bailey story of 'clever men and sophisticated frauds' 'PHONE PHREAKS WHO CALLED UP THE WORLD'

A GROUP of intellectuals, many holding university degrees, evolved a scheme to make telephone calls all over the world at local rates, it was said at the Old Bailey today.

Nineteen men on 48 charges were in the dock as prosecutor Mr Richard Du Cann, gave details of the "phone phreaking."

The fraud, he said, involved 360 group switch centres and it would cost the Post Office £400,000 to prevent it happening again.

The 'cheat' box

"One of the 19 had a silver box called a 'bleep' box but it was in fact a cheat box. It enabled a call to be made at a local rate, roughly 1p for 12 minutes, to almost anywhere in the world. Mr Du Cann said that, for instance, a legal call to the U.S. would cost 50p for 30 seconds.

● Another developed a device which would defeat the Post Office system by allowing him and his fellow conspirators to send signals to Post Office machinery which would act on them, believing them to be sent lawfully.

● At the other end of the scale there was a cheating system which consisted of a 2p piece being attached to a fine piece of thread, thus enabling the caller to make calls from a public box and retrieving the 2p.

● But perhaps "the daddy of them all" said Mr Du Cann, was a multi-frequency simulator, a machine for generating tones on frequencies used on the Australian network in Eastern Europe and some parts of North Africa.

It also enabled contacts to be made in Asia and in North America.

Said Mr Du Cann of the 19 men, who all pleaded not guilty: "Their thoroughness was as painstaking as it was sophisticated."

All of them had considerable training in or experience of telephony and telecommunications.

The accused

The 19 men are:

Stewart Hallas, 25, senior technical officer, of Barking, 26, school teacher, both of Gledstanes Road, West Kensington; Stuart Healy, 27, electronics engineer, of Putteridge Road, Luton.

Michael Brookfield, 30, optical designer, of Roebuck Court, Stevenage, Herts; Roger Harris, 26, development engineer, of Chislehurst Road, Orpington.

Timothy Mason, 21, student, of Kent University, Canterbury; Anthony Kideon, 25, assistant executive telephone engineer, of Malyons Road, Lewisham; William Borland, 47, civil servant, of Broadwicks Way, Bromley; Philip Ushley, 23, student, of London University, of Handsworth Avenue, Waltham Forest.

Andrew Marland, 25, a technical adviser, of Estelle Road,

Hampstead; Duncan Campbell, 21, student, of Brasenose College, Oxford.

Donald Ward, 24, design engineer, of Concordia House, Upper Woolhampton, Reading; Jan Erikson, 31, unemployed, of Davensport Road, Shepherds Bush; Colin McEwan, 25, research engineer, of Brinswood Close, Pound Hill, Surrey.

Robert Hill, 24, electronics engineer, of Old Rectory, Dry Drayton, Cambridgeshire; George Newson, 26, development engineer, of Balmoral Road, Watford, Herts; Nigel Bevan, 27, computer programmer, of Clare Road, Hounslow.

Brian Drury, 24, electronics technician, of Montgomery Street, Hove, and Martin Shrimpton, 25, electronics technician, of Cross Way, Harpenden, Herts.

Half million pound Family Martin

By MANNY ROBINSON

FAMILY man extraordinary, Tom Martin, made it today — from a tenement in the Gorbals, Glasgow, via a council house in Thongsley, Huntingdon, to a half-millionaire status with a £568,552 Treble Chance win on Littlewoods Pools.

Britain's latest half-millionaire received his cheque at London's Connaught Rooms this afternoon, from Littlewood's first-ever half-millionaire, Ken Grimes, surrounded by three other half million pound Littlewood's Pools winners—Colin Carruthers, David Griffiths and Jim Wood.

Tom shares his win with nine other members of his family, including his wife, sister Margaret and her husband George Trivett, a machine operator from Peterborough, James, 35, an electrical contractor, and Elizabeth Martin, 32, of St Ives, Huntingdonshire, John, 25, a self-employed heating engineer, and Margaret, 21, of Huntingdon. Tom's mother Mrs Catherine Lynch, and stepfather Bill, who instantly retired from his job as a labourer.

Happy

Tom said after receiving the cheque: "We're one great happy family. We've always stuck together. We followed each other down from the Gorbals where six families lived in a five-roomed tenement, to Huntingdon, and we all live within a 15-mile radius of each other.

"All the members of the family send in their stake money to me for the £2-25 perm. My brother and I have been saving secretly to send my parents to Australia to see relatives. Now about 18 of us will go there this winter—we are as close as that."



Evening Standard: Michael Fresco

TOM MARTIN and the £568,552 pools cheque—a change of mind on a wealth tax.

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